REMARKS

The Examiner maintains the rejections of record, as stated in the Office Action. The Examiner responds to Applicant's remarks by stating that "Swale clearly teaches that his invention allows the charging of a call to be varied as it progresses (i.e. real-time). Furthermore, the CDR in Swale provides data such as tariff (charge band code; column(s) 4, lines 41-65)." Applicant's respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to recognize the full effect of Applicant's invention.

To better understand the invention, the Examiner is first explained to problems in the art. In conventional systems, the sending of call charge information from the exchange/carrier (in which the CDP is arranged) back to the first exchange (which is allocated to the calling subscriber) is of little use since, in this case, cost accounting has to be handled by the second local exchange. Thus, the called subscriber cannot be offered an indication of costs and limitation of costs. For example, operator-initiated calls for coin telephones or hotel room telephones are blocked by the operator and the normal subscribers are informed that AOC and SCLS cannot be offered as a service attributes for these calls. Since transmission of the call charge information from the carrier to the local exchange which is allocated to the called subscriber is not possible in reversed-charge calls, the local exchange determines the call costs on the basis of a model which assumes that the call has been initiated by the called subscriber. The corresponding costs are then used for using the AOC and ACLS service attributes. Since the charges determined are based on assuming that the call has been initiated by the called subscriber, it may not be possible to determine the real charges incurred.

While col. 6, lines 22-40 indeed disclose two exchanges in connection with a charge reversal request, the call charge information transferred from one exchange to another exchange does not allow for AOC and SCLS attributes. It merely allows for costs to be forwarded from one exchange to another and sets up a CDR. As described in the previous response, CDRs are data records which are processed by a billing-system and describe the usage of services (see, for example, col. 7, lines 39-53 of Swale). However, a CDR does not allow for real-time viewing or display of charges for calls made using the process of the present invention. Rather, Swale simply allows for costs to be charge that occurred in real-time. That is, although bills can be generated

from the "real" (i.e. amount of) time it took for the call, it does not allow for charging features to be viewed on real-time basis (i.e. as the call occurs or "while the telecommunication link is in existence"). Significantly, this is the very problem the invention seeks to solve.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.449122020600. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted

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